Surveillance. Further, it addresses the issue of health in the co ntext of sector-wide approach addressing sanitation and hygiene, nutrition and safe drinking water as basic determinants of good health in order to have greater convergence among the related social sector Departments *i.e.* AYUSH, Women & Child Development, Sanitation, Elementary Education, Panchayati Raj and Rural Development.

For correcting regional imbalance in the availability of affordable/reliable tertiary healthcare services and also to augment facilities for quality medical education in the country, the Government has launched the Pradhan Maritri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY). Under PMSSY, six new AIIMS like institutions are to be set up and 13 medical colleges upgraded all over the country.

Concerted efforts are also being made to arrest communicable diseases like HIV/AIDS and non-communicable diseases like cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, deafness, mental health etc. besides strengthening the existing national health programmes.

Community participation and Decentralized Planning together with flexible funding is facilitating States to look at ground reality and plan accordingly. Experience over the last two years shows that the NRHM is rapidly expanding in the country. Fresh initiatives being taken by the States as a part of this mission process will further strengthen the health delivery mechanism.

Production of oilseeds

†*229. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of production of mustard seeds, soyabean, palm oil, sunflower, sesame seed and groundnut during the year 2006-07 in the country;

(b) the procurement of above agricultural products made by Government at the minimum support price;

(c) whether the same was sufficient for eatable and non-eatable requirements;

(d) if not, whether Government would revise the support price or make arrangement for more procurement from the next crop by giving bonus;

(e) whether per acre productivity of oilseeds in the country is very less in comparison to the other oilseeds producing countries; and

(f) if so, the efforts being made by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The production of mustard seeds, soyabean, sunflower, sesame seed and groundnut during the year 2006-07 in the country is shown below:

Name of oilseeds	Production (in Million Tonnes) in the year 2006-07
Mustard seeds	7.10
Soyabean	8.86
Sunflower	1.18
Sesame seed	0.59
Groundnut	4.91

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

India produces a very small quantity of palm kernel. As per data published in the Report "Oil World Annual 2007", the production of palm kernels in India during the year 2007 is 11 thousand tonnes.

(b) However, the quantity of oilseeds procured by the designated agency *viz.,* National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) under price support operation during the year 2006-07 are given below:

Oilseeds	MSP (Rs. per quintal)	Procurement (in MTs)
Mustard seeds	1715	22,01,891
Soyabean (Yellow)	1020	7
(Black)	900	
Sunflower	1500	5,242
Sesame seed	1560	377
Groundnut pods	1520	116

There is no Minimum Support Price (MSP) for palm oil.

(c) to (f) The domestic production of oilseeds is not sufficient to meet the requirements. In addition to assuring remunerative prices, the Government fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for oilseeds on year-to-year basis to encourage the farmers to bring more area under crops and production. Procurement is done through the designated agency *viz.* NAFED in the event of market prices falling below their MSPs.

The productivity of oilseeds (Kilograms per hectare) in india is less in comparison to the other oilseeds producing countries. This can be seen from the Table below:

(Kgs/ha)

Country	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Canada	1650	1890	1800
USA	2590	2580	2600
Argentina	2630	2510	2650
Brazil	2270	2530	2740
China	1860	1830	1880
India*	885	1004	917
World	1650	1690	1730

Note: 1 heetare=2.4711 acres. Source: Oil World Annual 2007

*DES, M/o Agriculture

For increasing production and productivity of oilseeds in the country, the Government had launched the Technology Mission on Oilseeds (TMO) in 1986. Subsequently, pulses, oil palm and maize were also brought under the ambit of the Technology Mission. From April, 2004 an Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil palm and Maize (ISOPOM) was launched.

Under the ISOPOM, the States are provided flexibility in implementation of the programmes based on regionally differentiated approach to promote crop diversification and provide focused attention. An amount of Rs. 194.00 crore has been provided for the year 2007-08 for this purpose.

Bridge over Brahmaputra

*230. KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether fourth bridge over Brahmaputra in Bogibeel in the Dibrugarh district, Assam was supposed to be completed in the year 2004, subsequently it was changed to 2009 and at present it is expected to be completed by 2012;

(b) what is the reason behind this slow pace;

(c) whether any tender has been finalized as yet for any stage; and

(d) when is the work expected to start and to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) and (b) Rail-cum-Road Bridge at Bogibeed in Assam was approved by Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs in Sept., 1997 at an abstract cost of Rs. 942 crore with cost sharing between Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Road-Transport and Highways and the work was to be completed in a period of 5 years. Further, revised cost of bridge as per detailed survey and preliminary design was estimated as Rs. 1767 crore with share of Ministry of Railways as Rs. 1109 crore and that of Department of Road Transport and Highways (DORTH) as Rs. 658 crore. The then Prime Minister inaugurated the commencement of work in April, 2002 with a targeted completion period of 6 years. However, the project is progressing as per the availability of funds through Railway's Gross Budgetary Support only. An expenditure of Rs. 700 crore had been incurred till March 2007 and an outlay of Rs. 249.45 crore has been provided in the year 2007-08. The project was declared as "National Project' in Dec' 06 and mode of Hiding has been approved in Aug.' 07 only.

(c) and (d) Tender for collection of bulders for north and south banks, protection works for main bridge/link lines and earthwork, minor and major bridges, Railway Overbridges (ROBs), station building, ballast supply and track work for link lines has been awarded and the works taken up. Tenders for sub-structure of main bridge are under process.

Decrease in production due to soil erosion of agricultural land

†*231. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the possibilities of decrease in production rate due to soil erosion of agricultural land in the country have been assessed;

(b) if so, the estimated average annual decrease in production rate in the country, as a result thereof; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.